

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims**

Claim 1 (original): A container stopper comprising a core formed of an elastic material and having a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface continuous with the liquid-contact surface, the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface being coated with a skin made of a synthetic resin;

wherein said skin is a polyester skin made of a polyester resin or a synthetic resin having a polyester resin as a main component thereof, and the polyester skin is bonded to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of said core through a polyethylene bonding layer formed of a polyethylene resin or having a polyethylene resin as a main component thereof; and said polyethylene bonding layer has a thickness of 80 to 300  $\mu\text{m}$  at a center portion of the liquid-contact surface, a thickness of 70 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  at an outer peripheral portion of the outer peripheral surface adjacent the liquid-contact surface and a thickness of 30  $\mu\text{m}$  or more over the entire liquid-contact surface.

Claim 2 (original): The container stopper according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of said polyethylene bonding layer is 10  $\mu\text{m}$  or more greater than the thickness of the polyethylene bonding layer at the outer peripheral portion.

Claim 3 (original): The container stopper according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene bonding layer at the liquid-contact surface comprises two layers and the polyethylene bonding layer at the outer peripheral surface comprises a one layer.

Claim 4 (original): The container stopper according to claim 1, wherein said polyester skin is a skin made of polyethylene terephthalate.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A method of manufacturing a container stopper comprising a core formed of an elastic material and having a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface continuous with the liquid-contact surface, the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface being coated with a skin made of a synthetic resin, wherein the method comprises the steps of:

wherein using a polyester film of a polyester resin or a synthetic resin having a polyester resin as a main component thereof ~~is used as said skin;~~

stretching the polyester film ~~is stretched;~~ and

press fitting the said core is press-fit in a heated state for extension;

bonding the polyester film and the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of said core ~~being bonded~~ through a polyethylene bonding layer of a polyethylene resin or having a polyethylene resin as a main component thereof, ~~which~~ wherein the bonding layer has a greater thickness at a portion thereof corresponding to the liquid-contact surface than the other portions.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The method according to claim 5, ~~wherein a polyester~~ further comprising the steps of:

using a polyester skin having a skin-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer bonded to an inner surface thereof ~~is used as said skin; and~~

using a core having a core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer bonded to a liquid-contact surface and an outer peripheral surface thereof ~~is used as said core;~~ and

integrating said skin-side and core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layers ~~being integrated~~ by thermal fusion to form said polyethylene bonding layer.

Claim 7 (original): The method according to claim 6, wherein the core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer comprises at least two films including a first film corresponding to the liquid-contact surface and a second film corresponding to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral face.

Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to claim 7, ~~wherein after the first film is bonded to the liquid-contact surface of the core, further comprising the step of:~~  
bonding the second film is bonded to the liquid-contact surface and the outer peripheral surface of the core; after bonding the first film to the liquid-contact surface of the core,  
whereby thereby to form the core-side polyethylene adhesion forming layer is formed.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to claim 6, wherein said skin is a polyester skin having the skin-side adhesion forming layer of polyethylene bonded to an inner surface thereof by a dry laminate method ~~is used as said skin.~~